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TWELFTH ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Trustees of the Wisconsin Institute for the Education of the Blind

FOR THE YEAR ENDING OCTOBER 2, 1861.

OFFICERS OF THE INSTITUTE.

TRUSTEES :

R. B. TREAT, M. D., *President*. J. DIEFNEDORF, M. D.
B. B. ELDRIDGE, *Treasurer*. D. W. INMAN,
H. W. COLLINS, *Secretary*. S. W. SMITH.

SUPERINTENDENT.—T. H. LITTLE, M. A.

MATRON.—MRS. M. WRIGHT.

TEACHERS :

MISS S. F. COWLES, B. A. MISS S. J. LARNED.

TEACHER OF MUSIC.—J. S. ALLEN.

TEACHER OF HANDICRAFT.—J. W. DEITZ.

TRUSTEES' REPORT.

To His Excellency, A. W. RANDALL,

Governor of the State of Wisconsin.

The Board of Trustees of the Wisconsin Institute for the Education of the Blind, respectfully present the following as the twelfth annual report of their Board.

A detailed statement of the condition of the Institute will be found in the Superintendent's report,—appendix "C." herewith. The reports of the Treasurer and Secretary—appendices "A." and "B."—exhibit fully the financial affairs of the Institute.

The appropriation of the last Legislature for the benefit of this Institute was much below the amount believed necessary for the true interests of the school, but feeling bound by the action of the Legislature, the Trustees have strictly confined their expenditures to the matter of current support, and are enabled again to present the Institute to the Legislature free from all indebtedness.

By reference to the reports of the Secretary and Treasurer it will appear that there have been subject to the order of the Trustees the following sums, viz :

Balance on hand at date of last report.....	\$77 71
Balance of appropriation of 1860 undrawn.....	3,250 00
From the appropriation of 1861.....	7,750 00
	\$11,077 71

There have been expended the following sums, viz :

For repairs and improvements, most of which were in progress at date of last report.....	\$1,509 15
For current expenses.....	8,340 24
Balance cash in Treasurer's hands.....	1,228 32
	\$11,077 71

There remains of the appropriation of 1861, undrawn in the hands of the State Treasurer, the sum of \$2,250.00, which, with the amount of cash in our Treasurer's hands, makes the sum of \$3,478.-32 as the sum available for the expenses of the Institute to Feb. 1, 1862 ; which the Trustees believe to be sufficient for its requirements.

The Trustees take pleasure in calling attention to the fact, that as the advantages of the Institute become from year to year more widely known, a larger number of pupils assemble to receive its instructions and blessings. By reference to the Superintendent's report it will be seen that during the year past there have been

forty-five pupils in attendance—a number larger by twenty-five per cent. than the attendance of any previous year.

Still the attendance at the Institute is but a mere fraction of the number of blind persons in the State; the Trustees can but express the confident hope that the number of pupils will be increased rapidly, as the school becomes more widely known. The improvements in the building, mentioned in our last report, will afford ample room for the reception of a considerably larger number than are yet its attendance, so far as dormitory and school accommodations are concerned. But the Trustees feel they would be remiss in their official duty, did they fail to remind the Legislature that the Institute still lacks the means of educating the male pupils for self-support after leaving the Institute. It is of but little use to give a blind boy a knowledge of books, of music, and the power to exercise independent thought, unless at the same time he be taught some trade or profession, by which his own industry will render him self-supporting and independent when he leaves the Institute. Hence the mechanical department of the Institute must be regarded one of its most important. Hence in the two last reports of this Board to your Excellency, the Trustees were induced to urge the erection of a suitable work shop for these unfortunate boys. Another year's experience but deepens the conviction of this Board, that such a building is an imperative necessity, to give that full usefulness to the school, which the people of the State have a right to expect.

The building at present used for a work shop is totally unfit and wholly inadequate. The Trustees trust your Excellency will renew his recommendations of last year to the Legislature, in reference to this matter.

The Trustees last year urged upon the Legislature the importance of making provision for lighting the Institute building by gas. The same reasons exist why this should be done now as then; but recollecting the expense unexpectedly thrown upon the State since the date of their last report, in prosecuting the present war, the Trustees have deemed it advisable to economize in all respects the expenditure of money, and to postpone this matter till the State may be better able to render this aid.

The Trustees present the following estimate of moneys to be appropriated by the next Legislature, for the support and benefit of the Institute, viz.:

For the erection of a brick work shop.....	\$3,500
For current expenses till February 1, 1863.....	10,000

\$13,500

* Mr. W. H. Churchman, who for five years has filled the office of Superintendent of the Institute, with marked credit to himself and benefit to the Institute, on the 10th of August last tendered to this Board his resignation, to enable him to accept the position of Superintendent of the Indiana Institute for the education of

the blind. In accepting the resignation of Mr. Churchman, this Board took occasion to express their appreciation of his labors and character by resolutions, which are hereto appended.

The Trustees have selected as the successor to Mr. Churchman, Thomas H. Little, M. A., late of Columbus, Ohio, who has had much experience in instructing the blind, and who, the Board fully believe, will make a most able Superintendent. Mr. Little has been in charge of the school since September 1st, 1861.

In conducting the affairs of the Institute, it has been the constant study of this Board at once to husband its resources, and to promote its efficiency. The Trustees flatter themselves that in some respects their efforts have been successful.

For three years in succession they have presented the Institute to the Legislature free from every indebtedness, and the increase of pupils in the school indicates an interest in the affairs of the Institute at once creditable and inciting. The Trustees beg to renew to your Excellency, and to the Legislature, their invitation to visit the Institute, and examine its condition and its workings.

Respectfully submitted on behalf of the Trustees,

H. W. COLLINS, *Secretary.*

APPENDIX A.

SECRETARY'S REPORT.

Gentlemen of the Board of Trustees:

Our by-laws require an annual statement of the warrants drawn by your Secretary upon the Treasurer of the Board.

Such a statement, including all the warrants drawn between October 8th, 1860, and this date, is now presented. It is so drawn up as to show at once the number, date and amount of each warrant, the person who received it, and the purpose for which it was issued.

Respectfully submitted,

H. W. COLLINS, Sec'y.

JANESVILLE, Oct. 3d, 1861.

WARRANTS DRAWN ON THE TREASURER.

Date.	No.	To whom issued.	On what account.	Amount.
1860.				
October 13	400	W. C. Headlam.....	Painting.....	\$21 00
" 15	401	McKeon & Richards....	Mason work.....	25 00
" 18	402	William Storey.....	Broom corn.....	150 56
" 20	403	McKeon & Richards....	Mason Work.....	196 48
" 20	404	W. C. Headlam.....	Painting.....	18 00
" 27	405	do	"	14 62
" 27	406	McKeon & Richards....	Mason work.....	40 00
" 27	407	Tallman & Collins.....	Paints, &c.....	83 35
Novemb'r 2	408	W. Van Camp & others..	Broom corn.....	95 68
" 2	409	A. Alden.....	Brick.....	10 00
" 2	410	W. H. Churchman.....	Current expenses.....	36 88
" 7	411	B. B. Eldridge.....	Express charges.....	1 25
" 7	412	R. B. Treat.....	Medical services.....	29 38
" 7	413	J. S. Allen.....	Salary as teacher	87 50
" 7	414	Miss S. J. Larned.....	" "	50 00
" 7	415	Miss M. S. Larned.....	" "	62 50
" 7	416	J. W. Deitz.....	" of handicraft	22 00
" 7	417	C. Murphy.....	Provisions.....	17 87
" 7	418	W. Geisse & Sons.....	Beads.....	49 18
" 7	419	Tallman & Collins.....	Paints, &c.....	49 18
" 7	420	Fenn. Inst. for Blind...	Diction'y in rais'd letters	26 75
" 7	421	C. Skelly & Bro.....	Provisions.....	86 08

SECRETARY'S REPORT—Continued.

Date.	No.	To whom issued.	On what account.	Amount.
1860.				
Novemb'r 7	422	Dann & Carle.....	Groceries.....	54 66
" 7	423	G. Nettleton.....	Contract for building....	312 00
" 17	424	McKeon & Richards....	Labor in cellar.....	20 00
" 19	425	W. C. Headlam.....	Building contract.....	30 00
" 28	426	Wm. Stevens.....	Forty cords wood.....	60 00
" 30	427	W. Herkimer.....	Wood.....	13 50
December 5	428	W. C. Headlam.....	Building contract.....	40 50
" 5	429	T. Rooney.....	Cow.....	25 00
" 5	430	W. T. Douglass.....	Flour.....	33 90
" 5	431	Hanchett & Sutherland	"	47 50
" 5	432	C. Skelley & Bro.....	Groceries.....	55 49
" 5	433	W. C. Headlam.....	Building contract.....	18 00
" 10	434	J. W. Howard.....	Wood.....	10 50
" 12	435	J. L. Darling.....	Tuning pianos.....	8 00
" 22	436	M. Gibson.....	Oats.....	16 88
" 22	437	R. J. Lawton.....	Wood.....	112 50
" 22	438	McKeon & Richards....	Mason work.....	88 34
" 24	439	J. W. Deitz.....	Salary.....	44 00
" 24	440	W. C. Headlam.....	Contract for painting....	77 25
" 31	441	Tallman & Collins.....	Paints.....	78 40
" 31	442	W. Horton.....	Hay.....	9 56
" 31	443	D. Davies, Jr.....	Provisions.....	56 64
" 31	444	J. Todd.....	"	18 10
" 31	445	L. P. Carswell.....	"	7 76
" 31	446	G. Mettleton.....	Carpenter work, &c.....	233 08
" 31	447	W. H. Churchman.....	Salary.....	250 00
" 31	448	J. M. Howard.....	Wood.....	24 94
" 31	449	Mrs. M. Wright.....	Salary as matron.....	75 00
" 31	450	P. L. Smith & Co.....	Repairs on carriage....	16 75
" 31	451	Kotham & Winkley.....	" harness.....	10 88
" 31	452	W. H. Churchman.....	Current expenses.....	243 29
" 31	453	J. S. Allen.....	Books.....	9 65
" 31	454	P. H. Pierce.....	Provisions.....	55 91
" 31	455	W. C. Headlam.....	Painting.....	49 50
1861.				
May	1 456	R. J. Richardson.....	Hardware.....	122 82
"	1 457	E. S. Barrows.....	Broom materials..	41 89
"	1 458	P. H. Pierce.....	Provisions.....	50 54
"	1 459	Hanchett & Co.....	Flour.....	19 60
"	1 460	J. Bernhard.....	Bell.....	16 00
"	1 461	J. W. Deitz.....	Sal., teach. of handicraft	88 00
"	1 462	J. S. Allen.....	" " music.....	175 00
"	1 463	M. S. Larned.....	" "	125 00
"	1 464	Mrs. M. Wright.....	" as matron.....	150 00
"	1 465	Miss S. J. Larned.....	" as teacher.....	100 00
"	1 466	W. H. Churchman.....	" superintendent.....	250 00
"	1 467	Dann & Carle.....	Provisions.....	98 15
"	1 468	A. G. & O. F. Allen.....	Dry goods.....	24 42
"	1 469	Trask & Howland.....	Livery.....	7 00
"	1 470	Insurance Co.....	Premium.....	151 00
"	1 471	Tallman & Collin.....	Drugs, oil, glass, &c.....	52 05
"	1 472	R. B. Treat.....	Medical services.....	67 50
"	1 473	G. B. Curtis.....	Drugs, and sundries.....	77 22

SECRETARY'S REPORT—Continued.

Date.	No.	To whom issued.	On what account.	Amount.
1861.				
May	1 474	Wm. M. Tallman.....	Potatoes.....	12 00
"	1 475	B. B. Eldridge.....	Discount on remittance..	5 62
"	1 476	H. Swager.....	Furniture.....	30 76
"	1 477	D. W. Inman.....	Advances for supplies...	511 34
"	1 478	C. Sexton.....	Blacksmithing.....	4 50
"	1 479	D. Davis, Jr.....	Groceries.....	40 16
"	1 480	Lawrence & Atwood...	Wood.....	42 00
"	1 481	Wm. McLoon.....	".....	26 00
"	1 482	Perkins Inst. for Blind	Books in raised letters...	83 50
"	1 483	Noah Newell.....	Books and stationery....	74 62
"	1 484	W. H. Churchman.....	Current expenses.....	537 14
"	1 485	W. H. Douglas.....	Flour.....	50 75
"	8 486	E. S. Hallock.....	Wood hauling.....	2 50
"	8 487	M. C. Smith.....	Dry goods.....	136 24
"	8 488	E. J. Fenton.....	Livery.....	4 50
"	8 489	C. B. Inman.....	Wood.....	6 00
"	8 490	C. Skelly & Bro.....	Provisions.....	290 29
July	10 491	R. J. Richardson.....	Hardware.....	11 80
"	10 492	E. Howell.....	Provisions.....	15 20
"	10 493	P. A. Pierce.....	".....	17 89
"	10 494	D. Richards.....	Repairing furnace.....	10 00
"	10 495	S. J. Larned.....	Salary.....	50 00
"	10 496	M. S. Larned.....	".....	62 50
"	10 497	W. H. Churchman.....	".....	250 00
"	10 498	J. W. Deitz.....	".....	44 00
"	10 499	J. S. Allen.....	".....	87 50
"	10 500	W. H. Churchman.....	Current expenses.....	377 83
"	10 501	Hanchett & Co.....	Flour.....	56 25
"	10 502	E. S. Barrows.....	Broom materials.....	53 29
"	10 503	F. M. Hibbard.....	Provisions.....	4 29
"	10 504	D. D. Wilson.....	Guitar, &c.....	15 18
"	10 505	A. G. Allen.....	Dry goods.....	7 82
"	10 506	B. B. Eldridge.....	Express charges.....	1 25
"	10 507	J. B. Crosby.....	Expenses to Madison....	8 00
"	10 508	J. H. Fisher.....	Hardware.....	1 00
"	10 509	J. E. Scott.....	Oats.....	20 68
"	10 510	H. W. Collins.....	Expenses to Madison....	10 00
"	10 511	J. P. Plummer.....	Cartage.....	4 00
"	10 512	E. D. Tallman.....	Potatoes.....	3 00
"	10 513	R. K. Pritchard.....	Wood.....	2 60
"	10 514	H. H. Inmann.....	".....	40 50
"	10 515	R. Inmann.....	".....	50 00
"	10 516	S. Skidman.....	".....	78 00
"	10 517	H. H. Inmann.....	".....	21 75
"	10 518	P. Bidwell.....	".....	239 50
August	14 519	Mrs. Wright.....	Salary as matron.....	75 00
"	14 520	D. Richards.....	Labor, &c.....	43 50
"	14 521	J. B. Whiting.....	Wood.....	20 08
"	14 522	W. H. Churchman.....	Salary.....	250 00
October	2 523	Wm. Hall.....	Lightning rod.....	87 50
"	2 524	" ".....	" ".....	7 50
"	2 525	Skelly & Bro.....	Provisions.....	133 43
"	2 526	D. Davis, Jr.....	".....	44 00

SECRETARY'S REPORT—Continued.

Date.	No.	To whom issued.	On what account.	Amount.
1861.				
October	2527	Wm. Geisse & Sons.....	Beads and wire.....	56 60
"	2528	G. Scarchiff.....	Meat bill.....	316 41
"	2529	N. Swager.....	Furniture.....	57 66
"	2530	L. Powell.....	Provisions.....	2 85
"	2531	A. Ruggles.....	Furniture.....	18 50
"	2532	L. Moses.....	".....	17 31
"	2533	J. Cox.....	Rag Carpet.....	25 00
"	2534	D. Richards.....	Mason work.....	6 00
"	2535	Thos. H. Little.....	Current expenses.....	93 42
"	2536	W. H. Churchman.....	".....	163 67
"	2537	R. Hill.....	Blacksmithing.....	1 75
"	2538	P. L. Smith.....	Repairing carriage.....	9 50
"	2539	W. Sillito.....	Furniture, &c.....	27 00
"	2540	Roberts & Co.....	Vinegar.....	5 13
"	2541	N. Swager.....	Furniture.....	87 85
				<u>\$9,849. 39</u>

APPENDIX B.

TREASURER'S REPORT.

To the Board of Trustees of the Wisconsin Institution for the Education of the Blind:

Herewith I report and submit a statement of receipts and disbursements by me as Treasurer on account of the Wisconsin Institution for the Education of the Blind from the 9th day of October, 1860, to the 3d day of October, 1861, as follows:

B. B. ELDRIDGE in account with the Wisconsin Institution for the Education of the Blind.

Dr.	
Oct. 9, 1860...For cash on hand at date of last report.....	\$ 77 71
Oct. 13.....For cash from State Treasurer	2,250 00
Jan. 1, 1861.....do.....do.....	1,000 00
April 26.....do.....do.....	2,250 00
May 23.....do.....do.....	1,000 00
July 9.....do.....do.....	2,250 00
September 30.....do.....do.....	2,250 00
	\$11,077 71

Cr.	
Oct. 3, 1861...By payment of sundry orders of Board of Trustees from Oct. 9, 1860, to Oct. 3, 1861,	\$9,849 39
October 3.....By cash on hand.....	1,228 32
	\$11,077 71
Balance cash on hand.....	\$1,228 32

Respectfully submitted,

B. B. ELDRIDGE, *Treasurer.*

JANESVILLE, October 3d, 1861.

APPENDIX C.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT.

To the Board of Trustees :

GENTLEMEN—Another year in the history of our interesting charge has closed upon us, and, above all its predecessors, it has been in each department of the Institution one of progress and increasing prosperity.

For almost complete immunity from illness, even of the most casual nature, on the part of our entire household, we owe a debt of gratitude to the Supreme Ruler of the Universe ; while the continued fidelity of the assisting officers and employees in the discharge of their varied and onerous duties, as well as the diligence of the pupils in the pursuit of their several branches of instruction, and their cheerful submission to the wholesome discipline of the Institution will warrant me in bespeaking for them all the unqualified approbation and confidence of your Board.

The corps of instructors for the current session remains, with a single exception, the same as that reported last year. The change alluded to consists in the appointment of Miss S. F. Cowles, A. B., as Principal Teacher in the Literary Department, in place of Miss M. S. Larned, who declined a re-appointment at the close of the last session, mainly on account of failing health and consequent inability to withstand the rigors of our winter climate.

Miss Larned filled her responsible position with us very acceptably for a term of two years, and proved herself to be possessed of rare qualifications for a successful teacher of the blind. Her loss will, therefore, be deeply felt by our school for a time, at least. But strong confidence is felt that she will have a worthy successor in Miss Cowles, who bears a high reputation as a skillful teacher of the seeing, and who has entered with ardor upon the duties of her new position.

At the date of my last report, the number of the pupils upon the roll was thirty-three. Adding to this number nine new pupils received since that date, we have forty-two as the total number connected with the Institute during the year just closed. A catalogue of their names and residences will be found appended hereto.

Of the number just mentioned, three have been honorably discharged, at their own request, after a sufficient stay with us for the accomplishment of their several aims ; and the names of three others have been stricken from the roll on account of prolonged

absence and a supposed intention not to return to complete their course. This leaves thirty-six as the number on our roll at the present time; all but one of whom are in actual attendance.

Of those who were regularly discharged as above stated, one August Cale, from Milwaukee county, is engaged in the profession of music, but with what success we are not informed. Another, John Rasmussen, from Racine county, has established himself in the broom-making business, and makes a favorable report as to his success. The third, Oliver H. Van Zant, from Walworth county, left us with the expectation of entering the State University, at the commencement of the present session of that institution, the faculty having kindly consented, through my solicitation, to admit him to their classes without charge. He is a young man of good parts, and will, without doubt, sustain himself creditably in any class with which he may be united.

Allow me, in this connection, to suggest to your Board, the propriety of making some permanent arrangement with the authorities of our State University for the admission and support of such of our male graduates as are found to possess the ability and inclination to procure a more extended course of instruction than is compatible with the scope of this Institution. A similar plan has been followed to some extent in other States, and with very gratifying results. I know of none to whom this valuable privilege has been extended who have not fully sustained themselves in college, and graduated with the highest honors. History too gives us many illustrious examples of persons who, despite the disability of blindness, have gained great distinction in the walks of science, and occupied honorable positions in the learned professions.

Were there among those who enter our Institutions for the Blind, a larger number possessing the requisite ability and ambition to procure a college course, it might on some accounts be better to enlarge our own facilities to meet this want, than to adopt the plan above suggested; but as the case stands, the necessary expense attending such enlargement would, in view of the fact that the same good might be accomplished in the way proposed at a merely nominal cost, be much greater than the end in view would warrant.

Besides the economic consideration here presented in favor of the proposed plan of enhancing the too limited educational facilities hitherto offered, even in the oldest and best of our Institutions, to the higher grade of pupils, rather than that of attempting to provide a college course for them in our already too complex establishments, there is another argument of great force which will be readily appreciated by the experienced educator of the Blind. I allude to the highly beneficial influence which would be exerted upon the character of the blind student by constant intercourse and competition with minds fresh from the busy walks of life, and

free from the idiosyncrasies which his fellows in misfortune are too liable to contract.

The foregoing remarks are based upon the assumption that our schools for the Blind are not so organized as to furnish to the better class of their pupils equal advantages with those usually enjoyed by seeing students of the same grade; and that this assumption is incorrect no one who is conversant with the subject will, I am sure, venture to assert. Nor is it practicable, or even desirable, to have them so organized for reasons just hinted at. In the education of the seeing it is found necessary by long experience to divide the work between the common school, the academy and the college or university. Can we then, in the face of this well established necessity, hope, in the education of the blind, to successfully combine these three establishments into one, and still further complicate the difficulty by superadding a complete musical department, together with a complex manufacturing establishment? If so, we attempt too much with the limited means placed at our disposal, and must signally fail in our laudable effort to place the blind on an equal footing with the seeing in the struggle for independence and distinction.

That the want of a more efficient system of management than has heretofore been pursued in this matter, is keenly felt by many of our so-called graduates, I know full well,—whether said want is or is not appreciated by those whose province it is to supply it.

I have said that the plan of sending some of our graduates to college, to make the work of their education more complete, was practised to some extent in other states; and I would that it had been more generally followed. There would then have been among us fewer whose lot it is to mourn over deficient opportunities in youth and consequent failure in after life to realize a fulfillment of their cherished plans for the attainment of useful independence.

In the school department of our Institution, which is organized under three divisions, as explained in a former report, the following branches were pursued during the last session, viz:

In the third or primary division: Orthography, Reading, Writing, Arithmetic, Geography, and the elements of Music, with vocal and piano practice, interspersed with occasional lectures and readings on common things.

In the second or intermediate division: Orthography with definitions, Reading, Writing, Arithmetic, Geography, (descriptive and physical), Grammar, Composition, and Music with vocal and instrumental practice.

In the first or highest division: Writing, Composition, Rhetoric, Higher Arithmetic, Geometry (plain and solid,) Physical Geography, English Literature, History, Natural and Mental Philosophy, Astronomy, Chemistry, Geology, Botany, and Music; including thorough bass, with vocal and instrumental practice.

In addition to the above course, pursued in the regular study hours, the entire school has been furnished with daily readings by

the teachers and others from newspapers, magazines and books upon various useful subjects, besides occasional lectures upon topics of interest.

On the Sabbath, the pupils have listened to religious reading, morning and evening, and in the afternoon attended divine service in the chapel of the Institute, conducted in turn by the resident clergy of our city, who have, as heretofore, cheerfully rendered their valuable services without pecuniary consideration.

Including one hour of choir practice by the entire school, the number of hours daily spent in class by each of the several divisions, is as follows, viz: first division, six; second division, five; third division, four. The remainder of the day is devoted to instruction and practice upon the piano-forte, and to appropriate handicraft employments.

As intimated in the introductory paragraph of this communication, the progress of the pupils in their various school exercises during the past year, has been highly creditable to both themselves and their teachers, all having labored with untiring diligence in their respective spheres.

Gratifying as this progress is, however, much more could have been accomplished in the same time, and that with far less labor on the part of the instructors, were our pupils, like those of ordinary schools, furnished with appropriate text-books for individual study. But here is a want in the educational appliances for the blind yet in a great measure to be supplied. On account of the extra size of the letter and superior quality of the paper necessary to be used, taken in connection with the circumstance that only one side of each leaf can be rendered available, books in raised characters for the use of the blind must always be much more expensive than those printed in the ordinary way for the seeing; but the lack of inducement to private enterprise and competition, (the call for such books being quite limited,) and the absence of concert of action on the part of the various Institutions of our country, have tended to make their cost far greater than it need be, if all the Institutions could unite in the selection of appropriate works to be printed, the adoption of a uniform letter, and the support of a single press, and then each of the several Institutions order enough copies of every publication to enable it to supply its classes with a sufficient number for individual study.

The importance of this subject has for some time engaged the attention of our most experienced educators of the blind; and several efforts have already been made to arrive at a practical solution of the difficulty. Among these was the calling of a convention of the Superintendents and Teachers of all the Institutions for the Blind in the United States, to take the matter under consideration and, if possible, determine upon some settled line of policy. This convention met at the New York Institution in August, 1853, and was well attended, nearly all the Institutions being represented. Various resolutions looking to the advance-

ment of the object in question, were discussed and adopted, and a committee appointed to memorialize Congress for a grant of land to aid in the formation of a national printing fund. But for some reason Congress was never so memorialized, and the effort in that direction remains just where the convention left it at its adjournment.

Another movement in a different direction was subsequently made, however, and unless too much retarded by the present unfortunate condition of our country, promises better success. Mr. D. Sherrod, a blind gentleman of the State of Mississippi, several years since, conceived a plan for the establishment of a National Printing House for the Blind, to be endowed by legislative appropriations and private contributions; and after canvassing several of the Southern and Western States for the furtherance of this object, has succeeded in obtaining a charter from the Legislature of Kentucky for the proposed institution, as well as the sum of \$25,000, required by that charter before the printing house should commence operations. Several of the States have appropriated liberally to the fund, and hundreds of individuals have subscribed greater or less amounts.

The printing house is located in Louisville, and is under the management of a Board of Directors appointed by the Legislature of Kentucky. During the past year, a press with the necessary types has, I believe, been purchased, and other steps have been taken towards a practical commencement of the enterprise; but of the exact amount of progress, I am not informed.

I have great confidence that with proper encouragement from the friends of education throughout the Union, this enterprise may be made productive of great good to the blind; and as its projector has it in contemplation to visit our State in the course of the coming winter, allow me to ask for him the cordial co-operation of your Board in his laudable and well-directed efforts.

Though the foregoing remarks have had reference only to the furnishing of appropriate books for the blind student and graduate, as much might with equal propriety be said in favor of some intelligent, concentrated effort towards the furnishing of approved geographical and other school apparatus for our various institutions, at something like a reasonable cost. At the present stage of our progress, almost every institution has its own peculiar appliances of this nature, mostly of rude, defective construction, and all made by hand, piece by piece, under the greatest possible disadvantages. The result is that few, if any, of our schools are adequately supplied with suitable apparatus; nor can they well afford to be while its procurement is fraught with so much labor and expense. It is earnestly hoped that the time is not far distant when some intelligent and enterprising manufacturer may be found who will receive the combined patronage of all our Institutions, and be thereby encouraged to provide himself with such facilities as will enable him to produce apparatus far superior to that now in use, at a com-

paratively small cost. This subject deserves, and must in time receive the earnest consideration of all who are truly interested in the education of the blind.

In our industrial department, no change worthy of note has taken place since my last report, excepting some increase in the variety of fancy work by the female pupils, and the natural improvement in skill by both sexes, consequent upon prolonged experience in their respective manual arts.

The want of room in our present shop building, to which the attention of your Board has been called from year to year, still prevents the introduction of any other than the broom-trade for the male pupils. As heretofore explained on divers occasions, there are several other useful handicraft occupations which may be successfully pursued by our male graduates as a means of subsistence, but these cannot be introduced into our Institution until the Legislature shall see fit to make the necessary appropriation for the erection of a more commodious structure for the use of this department.

Not to reiterate here what has been so often said before concerning the prime necessity of this improvement, I cannot but recommend that in your forthcoming report you still keep the subject before the State authorities and continue to urge the propriety of their making early provision to meet a want so obviously imperative.

Concerning the other much needed improvements, referred to in several former reports, I would make the same recommendation, in the hope that the next Legislature may be induced to grant the means which have been withheld by its predecessors.

Should you succeed in obtaining an appropriation for the construction of the proposed shop, I beg leave to suggest the propriety of, so planning the same, as to make provision in the lower story for the introduction of appropriate gas works for lighting the Institute building, and in the upper story for a suitable gymnasium, for the use of the male pupils during inclement weather. This would save the cost of separate structures for these important objects, both of which must sooner or later be carried out, if you would make our Institute complete in all of its appointments.

The desirability of lighting our building with gas, instead of the present method, as a matter of safety as well as economy, has been so often presented to your notice that it need only be alluded to here; while the necessity of affording to our pupils every available means for the promotion of their physical training, must be too apparent to your Board to require of me any more than a simple reminder upon the subject.

The following statement will show you the business operations of the work department during our school year ending on the 31st of August last:

BROOM SHOP.

Dr.

To Bills Receivable, Oct. 1, 1860.....	\$176 85
To value of materials on hand, Oct. 1st, 1860.....	129 37
To value of tools on hand, Oct. 1st, 1860.....	179 39
To cost of materials, since Oct. 1st, 1860.....	312 72
To cost of labor since Oct. 1st, 1860.....	36 92

\$835 25

To balance....., 261 81

\$1,097 06

BROOM SHOP.

Cr.

By receipts in cash and merchandise since Oct. 1st., 1860..	\$414 15
By Bills Receivable, Sept. 1st, 1861.....	88 25
By value of materials on hand, Sept. 1st, 1861.....	11 00
By value of tools on hand, Sept. 1st 1861.....	179 39
By value of brooms on hand, Sept. 1st, 1861.....	404 27

\$1,097 06

GIRLS' WORK ROOM.

Dr.

To Bills Receivable, Sept. 1st, 1860.....	\$12 11
To value of materials on hand, Sept., 1st, 1860.....	47 24
To value of manufactured articles on hand, Sept. 1st, 1860.	14 45
To cost of materials since Sept., 1st, 1860.....	71 81

\$145 61

To balance..... 59 59

\$205 20

GIRLS' WORK ROOM.

Cr.

By receipts since Sept. 1st, 1860.....	\$97 76
By Bills Receivable, Sept. 1st, 1861.....	6 69
By value of materials on hand, Sept. 1st, 1861.....	66 00
By value of manufactured articles on hand, Sept. 1st, 1861	34 75

\$205 20

The above exhibit shows a balance of \$261 81 in favor of the broom shop, and one of \$59 59 in favor of the girls' work room; or a total balance of \$321 40 in favor of the work department.

In behalf of our household, and the numerous friends who have met with us for Divine worship on Sabbath afternoons, I am again called upon to tender grateful acknowledgment to the several clergymen who have so kindly and ably officiated upon these occasions.

Our thanks are also again due to the proprietors of the various newspapers which have been sent gratuitously to us during the year, and a continuance of their valuable favors is solicited. A list of these will be found appended hereto.

Having previously decided to accept an unsolicited call to the Superintendency of the Indiana Institute for the Education of the Blind—a post which I formerly occupied for a term of seven years, I tendered to your Board, early in July last, my resignation as Superintendent of this Institution, to take effect at the expiration of the current year, which closes with the date of this communication. Therefore, in accordance with the terms of my letter of resignation, my official connection with you and the Institution intrusted to your supervision, ceases this day, and my interesting charge passes into other hands.

Allow me, however, before taking final leave of your Board, to assure you that in retiring from the field in which I have labored with heart and hand for the past five years, I do so with many sincere regrets. The uniform courtesy and flattering confidence which have ever marked your bearing towards me in our official as well as private intercourse, leave me no room to doubt either your friendship or your appreciation of my humble endeavors in behalf of the blind youth of your state; and if by any word or deed of mine I have ever manifested aught but the fullest reciprocation of that courtesy and confidence, such has been foreign to my intention. Of the value of your counsels and the disinterestedness of the motives which have actuated you in the discharge of the duties devolving upon you, as guardians of the sacred trust confided to our mutual care, I have entertained the highest appreciation, and am free to say that, in any experience of over twenty years in the work to which I have devoted my life, it has never been my lot to be associated in a similar relationship with those to whom I owe a higher degree of respect and confidence.

In the gentleman whom you have done me the honor to appoint as my successor, in accordance with my recommendation, I doubt not you will find a highly efficient officer. Having for some time favorably known him as a zealous co-laborer in the cause of the blind, he will enter upon his new field in Wisconsin with my heartfelt wishes for his success, and I bespeak for him a full share of that confiding trust of which his predecessor has been the honored recipient.

Respectfully submitted,

W. H. CHURCHMAN.

Janesville, Wis., Sept. 30th, 1861.

APPENDIX "D,"

CATALOGUE OF PUPILS.

No.	Names.	Residence. Counties.	When admitted.	Cause of blindness.
1	Eliza C. Boorman.....	Walworth.....	October 1850..	Scrofula.
2	Francis A. Raleigh.....	Walworth.....	October 1850..	Congenital.
3	Carrie C. Porter.....	Jefferson.....	March 1850...	Accident.
4	Mary M. Slauter.....	Dane.....	October 1853..	Inflammati'n.
5	August Cale.....	Milwaukee.....	October 1853..	Inflammati'n.
6	Henry Hendrickson.....	Jefferson.....	October 1854..	Inflammati'n.
7	Flora F. Winslow.....	Kenosha.....	October 1856..	Accident.
8	Doratheia Lichtenberg.....	Dodge.....	October 1856..	Small Pox.
9	John Rischhoff.....	Fond du Lac...	October 1856..	Measles.
10	Eliza Keat.....	Jefferson.....	October 1856..	Inflammati'n.
11	James Gibbons.....	Richland.....	October 1856..	Accident.
12	Emma J. Kendall.....	Fond du Lac...	October 1857..	Measles.
13	Lodema Clark.....	Marquette.....	October 1857..	Congenital.
14	Lemantha Blackman.....	Wauzara.....	October 1857..	Inflammati'n.
15	Marcelia P. Raleigh.....	Walworth.....	October 1857..	Congenital.
16	Harriet E. Bradford.....	Dane.....	October 1857..	Amaurosis.
17	Oliver H. Van Zant.....	Walworth.....	Nov. 1857.....	Accident.
18	Paul Klausch.....	Jefferson.....	March 1857...	Inflammati'n.
19	Maria Scott.....	Rock.....	March 1857...	Congenital.
20	William Albrecht.....	Racine.....	March 1857...	Inflammati'n.
21	Mary E. Wentz.....	Rock.....	April 1857.....	Congenital.
22	George D. Adams.....	Grant.....	Sept. 1857.....	Scarlet Fever.
23	Mary O'Donahue.....	Crawford.....	Sept. 1857.....	Inflammati'n.
24	Caroline Anderson.....	Rock.....	Sept. 1857.....	Congenital.
25	Mary A. Goodman.....	Rock.....	Sept. 1857.....	Small Pox.
26	Margaret Jones.....	Columbia.....	Sept. 1859.....	Congenital.
27	Morris Jones.....	Columbia.....	Sept. 1859.....	Congenital.
28	Mary Greany.....	Grant.....	October 1859..	Amaurosis.
29	Fredrick H. Rubin.....	Dodge.....	October 1859..	Small Pox.
30	John Rahler.....	Milwaukee.....	January 1860..	Inflammati'n.
31	William P. Bellange.....	Milwaukee.....	Sept. 1860.....	Amaurosis.
32	Eliza M. Crandall.....	Dodge.....	Sept. 1860.....	Congenital.
33	John Rasmussen.....	Racine.....	Sept. 1860.....	Amaurosis.
34	Louisa Klatte.....	Jefferson.....	October 1860..	Congenital.
35	Louis E. K. Klatte.....	Jefferson.....	October 1860..	Congenital.
36	Charles Seely.....	Milwaukee.....	January 1861..	Hydrocephl's.
37	Eugene Hitchcock.....	Juneau.....	January 1861..	Congenital.
38	Ferdinand O. Cheeseman..	Sheboygan.....	Sept. 1861.....	Accident.
39	John Cowley.....	Dodge.....	Sept. 1861.....	Scarlet Fever.
40	Marion R. Stago.....	Fond du Lac....	Sept. 1861....	Scrofula.
41	Martha Peery.....	Green.....	Sept. 1861....	Accident.
42	Frank Kings.....	Milwaukee.....	Sept. 1861....	Inflammati'n.
43	Lucy Codner.....	Watertown.....	Sept. 1861....	Congenital.
44	George Schorp.....	Racine.....	Sept. 1861....	Inflammati'n.
45	Lucy Little.....	Rock.....	Sept. 1861....	Inflammati'n.

APPENDIX E.

A LIST OF NEWSPAPERS SENT GRATUITOUSLY TO THE INSTITUTE.

Janesville Daily Gazette, Janesville.
Janesville Daily Republican, Janesville.
Milwaukee Weekly Sentinel, Milwaukee.
Daily Wisconsin, Milwaukee.
Wisconsin Weekly State Journal, Madison,
Beloit Journal & Courier, Beloit.
Appleton Crescent, Appleton.
Deaf Mute Casket, Raleigh, North Carolina.
Green Bay Advocate, Green Bay.
The New Covenant, Chicago.
Northwestern Christian Advocate, Chicago.
The Little Pilgrim, Philadelphia.
Sunday School Advocate, New York.

APPENDIX F.

REGULATIONS FOR THE ADMISSION OF PUPILS, ETC.

Any person wishing to make application for the admission of a pupil into the Institute, must address the Superintendent, giving definite and truthful answers to the following questions, viz :

1st. What are the names and post office address of the parents or guardians of the person for whom application is made?

2d. Are such parents or guardians legal residents of the State of Wisconsin?

3d. What are the name and age of the person for whom application is made?

4th. At what age did he or she become blind, and from what cause?

5th. Is he or she of sound mind, and susceptible of intellectual culture?

6th. Is he or she free from bodily deformity and all infectious diseases?

7th. What are his or her personal habits and moral character?

Upon the receipt of such application by the Superintendent, the applicant will be notified as to whether or not the person in question will be admitted, and no one must be sent to the Institute until such notification shall have been received.

No person of imbecile and unsound mind, or of confirmed immoral character, will be knowingly received into the Institute; and in case any person shall, after a fair trial, prove incompetent for useful instruction, or disobedient to the wholesome regulations of the Institute, such pupil will be thereupon discharged.

No charge is made for the boarding and instruction of pupils from the State of Wisconsin, but all are expected to come provided with an adequate supply of good, comfortable clothing, which must be replenished from time to time, as it becomes necessary.

The stock of clothing should embrace suitable articles for both summer and winter, and a sufficient number of each kind to admit of the necessary changes for washing and repairing.

All the clothing must be sent in good condition, not only upon the first entrance of the pupil, but also at each subsequent return from home after the vacation.

Each article should also be distinctly marked with the owner's name or initials, in order to prevent confusion or loss.

It is important that new pupils should enter upon their term of instruction at the commencement of a session, and it is expected of all others that they shall be present at the opening of the school, and remain until it closes, on the last day of the session, unless prevented from doing so by sickness or other emergency. It is also expected that timely arrangements will be made for the departure of every pupil from the Institute within a few days after the close of each session.

All letters to the pupils should be addressed to the care of the Institute, in order to ensure their prompt reception.

From ten to fourteen is the most favorable age for entering the Institute, provided the pupils have judicious care and training at home prior to that age. But as this is not always the case, and as there are many who lose their sight after that age, or, having lost it earlier, do not find an opportunity of going to school at the proper time, the regulations of the Institute allow of the admission of all proper subjects who are not under eight or above twenty-one years of age.

It must be borne in mind, however, by the friends of blind children, that though they have the privilege of sending them to

the Institute at a later period than the one mentioned as the best, yet it is of the highest importance that they should be sent within said period ; for, as they grow older, their neglected powers lose their susceptibility for cultivation, rendering the training more and more difficult, until they become wholly incapacitated for receiving such an education as will fit them for a life of usefulness, independence and happiness. It is not uncommon to witness results of this kind, arising out of the morbid tenderness with which a blind child is frequently regarded by his friends, rendering them unwilling to entrust him at the proper age to the care of strangers, lest some harm should befall him. Indeed every year's experience but serves to indicate more clearly, the lamentable prevalence of this unjust neglect ; as there are constantly applying for admission into the several institutions of the country, those whose melancholy lot it is to lead a life of hopeless ignorance and dependence, but who might, with proper training, in early youth, have become happy and useful members of society, maintaining themselves comfortably and respectably.

The term of instruction is not limited to any definite number of years, but is determined in each individual case, by the acquirements of the pupil and consequent fitness for graduating. The length of each one's term will of course depend upon his aptness to learn, and the extent of the course to be pursued.

The session of the Institute commences on the first Monday of September in each year, and closes on the last Wednesday in June following ; leaving a vacation of more than two months, during which time the pupils have an opportunity of visiting their homes and replenishing their clothing.

APPENDIX "G."

RESOLUTIONS OF THE BOARD IN RELATION TO THE RESIGNATION OF MR. CHURCHMAN.

At a meeting of the Board, on the 10th of August, 1861, the following resolutions were adopted unanimously:

Resolved, That the resignation of W. H. Churchman, A. M., as Superintendent of the Institute be, and the same is hereby accepted.

Resolved, That in accepting the resignation of Mr. Churchman, the Trustees only accede to his request, and do not thereby express any preconceived willingness or acquiescence in the tender of resignation; that in parting with Mr. Churchman they look to what seems to be for his good, and acquiesce in his request because they hope for his best interests; that in this resignation the Institute loses a faithful and capable officer, the children a true and generous friend, and the Trustees of the Institute an efficient co-worker in their labor of building up a useful and beneficent school for the unfortunate blind of our State; that in his new field of labor, the Trustees can only wish him the success which has attended his efforts in our midst.

H. W. COLLINS, *Secretary*.